



Background

- Pediatric populations in underserved communities experience higher rates of chronic conditions compared to their peers in more advantaged areas.
- MDI can:
 - Help early disease detection
 - Improve timeliness of care
- FQHCs provide both medical and dental services, and are ideal for MDI.

Study aim: Examine the status of MDI services at FQHCs in the U.S. and investigate whether clinics that see more children provide more integrated preventive services.

Methods

- Online survey distributed via NNOHA listserv
- Fielded Oct-Dec 2023
- Descriptive and bivariate analyses to examine the types of MDI services offered and to assess the relationship between these services and the percentage of pediatric patients in clinics
- Holm correction (q-values)

Acknowledgment

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The most commonly offered MDI service in FQHC medical and dental clinics is referrals.

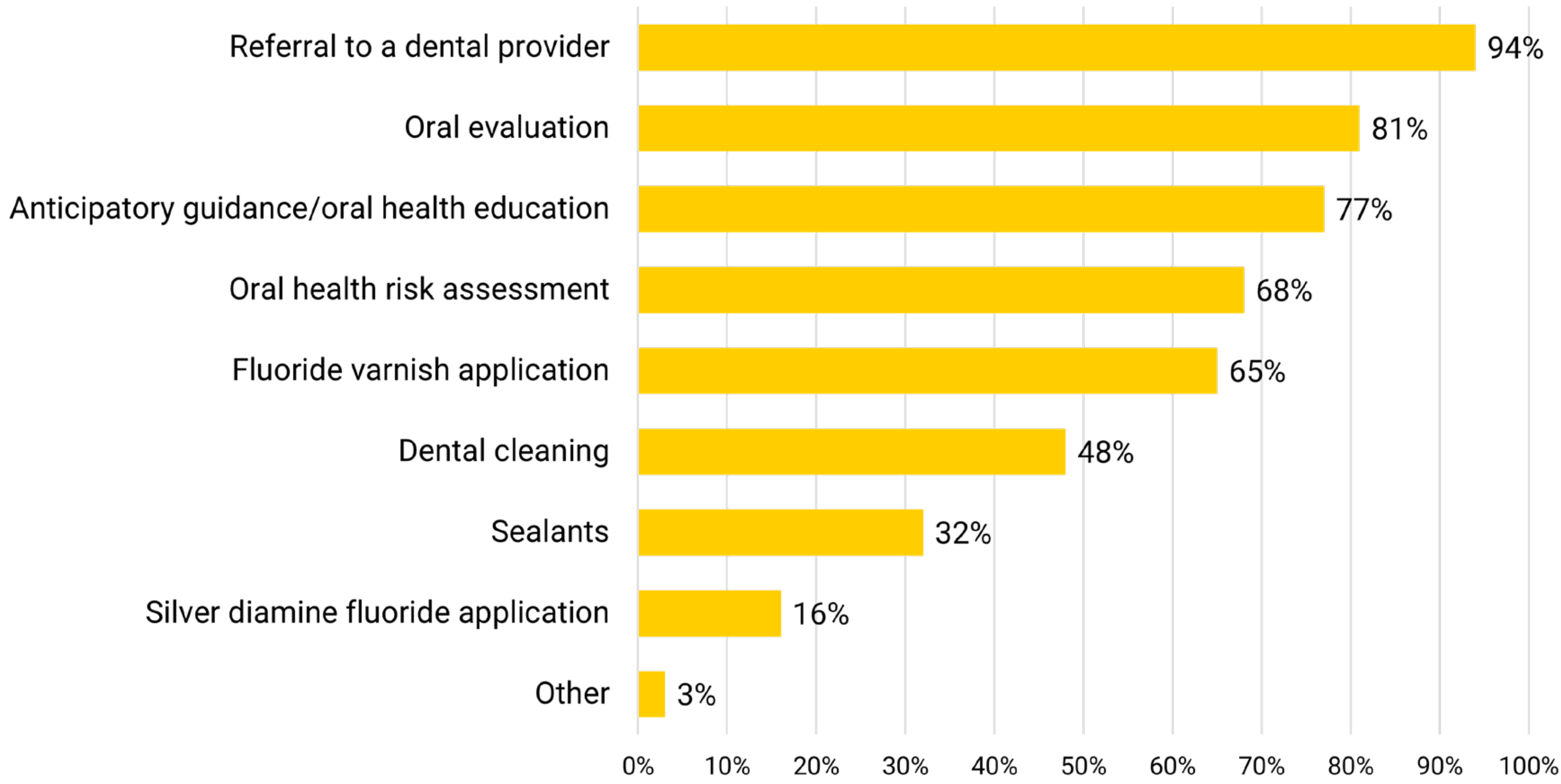


Figure 1. Preventive oral health services that are provided in medical clinic site(s) (n = 31)

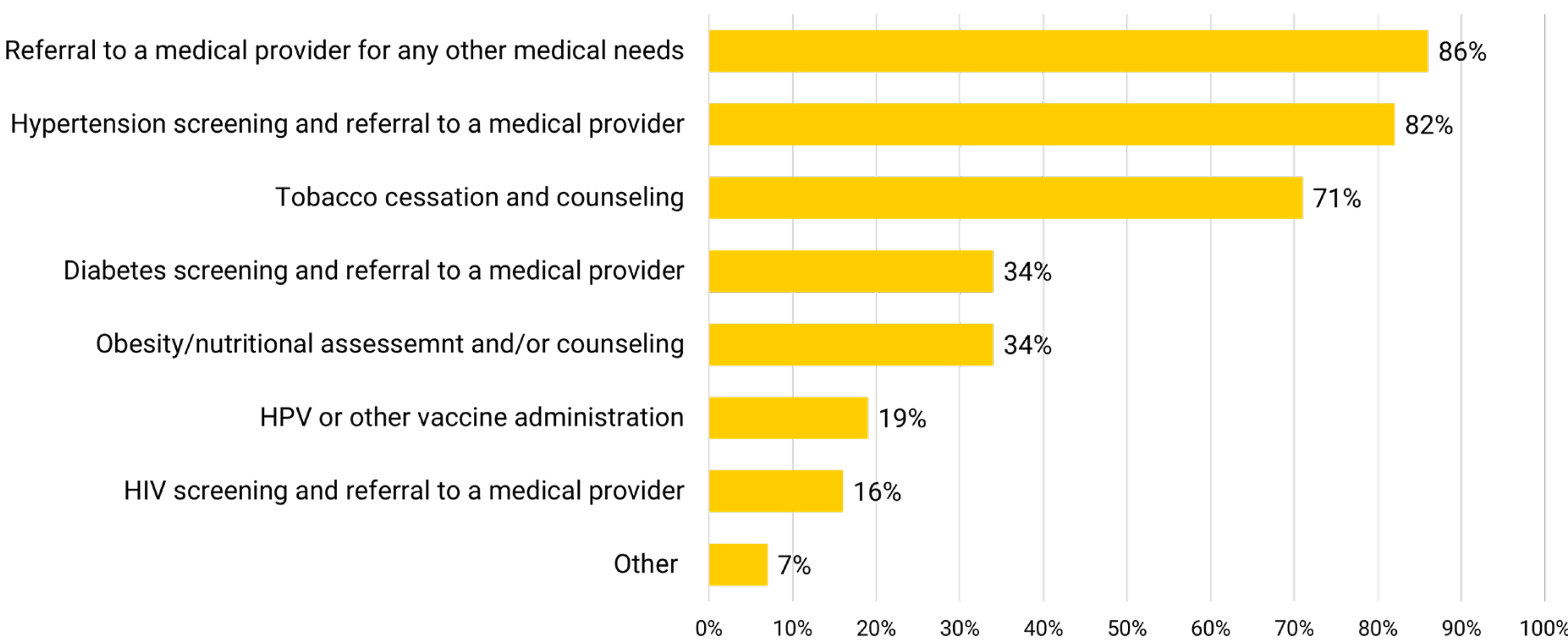


Figure 2. Preventive primary medical care services that are provided in dental clinic site(s) (n = 170)

Results

Table 1. Final sample size by survey (n=211)

Survey	Respondents n (%)
Medical clinics with MDI	31 (15%)
Medical clinics without MDI	0
Dental clinics with MDI	171 (81%)
Dental clinics without MDI	9 (4%)

- Only one MDI service, hypertension screening and referral to medical provider, was associated with the percentage of pediatric patients. Dental clinics with fewer pediatric patients were more likely to offer hypertension screening and referral (Q=0.045)
- Other MDI services did not have any significance.

Table 2. Association between the types of preventive primary medical care services provided at dental clinic site(s) of Federally Qualified Health Centers and the percentage of pediatric patients at the site(s)

Type of PPMCS	% of pediatric patient population					p-value ¹	q-value ²
	0-19%	20-39%	40-59%	60-79%	80-100%		
Hypertension screening & referral to a medical provider						<0.001	0.045
Yes (n=105)	32 (30%)	46 (44%)	22 (21%)	5 (5%)	0		
No (n=21)	3 (14%)	13 (62%)	1 (5%)	0	4 (19%)		

1. Fisher's exact test
2. Holm correction for multiple testing

Conclusion

- **Most commonly offered MDI services in both medical and dental clinics at FQHCs is referrals.**
- **Hypertension screening was offered more in dental clinics with fewer pediatric patients.**
- There was no statistical association between other MDI services and % of pediatric patients in clinics.
- Future research should explore best practices offering comprehensive MDI services to pediatric patients at FQHCs.
- Strengthening the delivery of MDI at FQHCs is essential for expanding access to comprehensive preventive care.